

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 OIC-02

CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 PA-01 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5279

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NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNESCO, PORG, OCON

SUBJECT: TEXT OF REPORT BY ITALY'S AMBASSADOR TO UNESCO,
 CONCERNING HIS INFORMAL TALKS WITH DG M'BOW ON
 SEPT 7 TO MEETING OF INFORMATION GROUP ON
 SEPT 17

REF: PARIS 27572

BEGIN QUOTE OF TEXT OF ITALIAN AMBASSADOR.

ITALIAN AMBASSADOR CARDUCCI STATEMENT PRESENTED
TO INFORMATION GROUP ON SEPT 17, 1976

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE MANDATE I HAD RECEIVED FROM THE
I.G. EARLY IN SEPTEMBER, I MET THE D.G. ON THE 7TH OF
THIS MONTH.

I STARTED THE CONVERSATION EXPRESSING TO MR. M'BOW THE
SUBSTANCE OF OUR CONSULTATIONS ON THE MATTER OF THE
FORTHCOMING DEBATE AT THE 19TH SESSION OF THE G.C. ON THE
DRAFT DECLARATION ON THE USE OF THE "MASS MEDIA"; I
STRESSED OUR COMMON CONCERN THAT THIS ISSUE WOULD DEEPLY
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DIVIDE THE DELEGATIONS PRESENT AT THE G.C. AND SOUGHT HIS

ADVICE AS TO BEST WAY TO AVOID THIS SITUATION.

I EMPHASIZED THAT OUR ATTITUDE WAS BY NO MEANS A NEGATIVE ONE. WE DID NOT SEEK SO MUCH A MERE POSTPONEMENT OF THE DEBATES, AS WE ASKED THAT THE MEMBER STATES BE GIVEN TIME AND ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY TO RECONSIDER THE MATTER AND MAKE USE OF NEW IDEAS AND APPROACHES THAT I UNDERSTOOD WERE BEING STUDIED BY SOME OF US. THIS, I ADDED, COULD NOT BE DONE SIMPLY BY TRYING TO AMEND A TEXT WHICH MOST OF US THOUGHT TO BE ONE-SIDED AND GENERALLY UNACCEPTABLE.

I CONCLUDED STATING THAT MY VISIT WAS OF AN UNOFFICIAL NATURE, A CIRCUMSTANCE HOWEVER WHICH DID NOT DIMINISH THE IMPORTANCE WHICH MY COLLEAGUES AND MYSELF ATTACHED TO THE D.G. BEING FULLY INFORMED OF OUR MEDITATED VIEWS ON THIS MATTER.

I FOUND THE D.G. VERY RECEPTIVE TO MY ARGUMENTATION: HE SAID HE WELCOMED AND ENCOURAGED CONSULTATIONS WITH PERMANENT DELEGATES AND MADE A REFERENCE TO THE RECENT VISIT OF THE "CONTACT GROUP" ON ANOTHER MATTER.

THEN HE SAID THAT HIS SINCERE WISH AND ENDEAVOUR WERE THAT THE FORTHCOMING SESSION OF THE G.C. BE A SUCCESS. HE ADDED THAT HE HAD THE UNCONDITIONAL BACKING OF THE AFRICAN DELEGATIONS AND HAD REASONS TO BELIEVE THAT THE ARAB GROUP AS A WHOLE SHARED HIS VIEWS AND WOULD SHOW A COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE.

THIS DESIRE HAD LED HIM TO DEVISE AND SUBMIT TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD SOME PROCEDURAL INNOVATIONS SUCH AS THE "DRAFTING AND NEGOCIATION GROUP."

HE WAS VERY KEEN ON THIS IDEA AND HOPED THAT THE E.B. WOULD ADOPT HIS REPORT ON THIS MATTER AS A RECOMMENDATION TO THE G.G. HE WAS CONVINCED, IN FACT, THAT THE G.T. 1 MIGHT BE ABLE TO DIFFUSE WHAT HE DEFINED AS "CONFLICTUAL ITEMS," PROVIDED THIS BODY WERE COMPOSED BY CHIEFS OF DELEGATIONS EMPOWERED TO TAKE DECISIONS WITHOUT REFERRING TO HIGHER AUTHORITIES.

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AS TO THE DRAFT DECLARATION ON MASS MEDIA, THE D.G. SAID THAT, IN HIS VIEW, THIS WAS A TYPICAL TIEM TO BE DEALT WITH BY THE G.T. 1. HE THOUGHT, ON THE OTHER HAND, THAT A MOVE SIMPLE TO DELETE THE ITEM FROM THE AGENDA OF THE CONFERENCE WOULD BE INADVISABLE AND COUNTERPRODUCTIVE.

THE G.T. 1 WOULD HAVE, AT ANY RATE, MANDATE TO DEBATE ANY

PROCEDURAL SOLUTION OF THE UNDERLYING PROBLEMS, INCLUDING
AS I SUGGESTED, THE RECONVENING OF A MEETING OF GOVERN-
MENT EXPERTS AFTER THE 19TH SESSION OF THE G.C.

AS TO THE BEST WAYS OF SECURING THAT THE ITEM BE REFERRED
TO THE G.T. 1, THE D. G. INDICATED THAT THIS OUGHT TO BE
DONE ON THE BASIS OF A DECISION OF THE BUREAU OF THE
CONFERENCE. HE ADDED THAT THIS DECISION MIGHT BE
BROUGHT ABOUT FOLLOWING A SUGGESTION OF THE CHAIRMAN OF
THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.

ANSWERING MY QUESTION, THE D.G. SAID THAT HE THOUGHT THAT
THE E.B., AT ITS 100TH SESSION, SHOULD NOT DISCUSS A
TENTATIVE AGENDA OF THE G.T. 1; THE MATTER, HOWEVER,
COULD BE THE SUBJECT OF INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS AMONG
BOARD MEMBERS.

AT ANY RATE, THE D.G. WENT ON, THE REFERRING TO THE G.T. 1
OF THIS "CONFLICTUAL MATTER" (AS WELL AS OF OTHER ITEMS

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OF THE SAME NATURE) COULD NOT HAPPEN BY A "MIRACLE," BUT
SHOULD BE THE RESULT OF INTENSE DIPLOMATIC ACTION BOTH
HERE AND IN THE CAPITALS OF MEMBER STATES. OUR
DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS IN VARIOUS CAPITALS SHOULD EXPLAIN TO
THE GOVERNMENTS THE PURPOSE OF OUR ACTION, INDICATE THE

LINE OF OUR REASONING AND GIVETHEM SOME IDEA OF HOW WE WERE PREPARED TO MEET SOME OF THE REQUESTS OF OTHER MEMBER COUNTRIES ON THIS MATTER.

HE INSISTED MORE THAN ONCE ON THE NECESSITY OF DIPLOMATIC PREPARATION.

IN CONCLUSION, THE D.G. DID NOT COMMIT HIMSELF IN ANY WAY TO A SPECIFIC OUTCOME OF THE DEBATE ON THIS ITEM. ON THE OTHER HAND, HE DID NOT, AT ANY MOMENT, TRY TO HID HIMSELF BEHIND THE SOVEREIGNTY OF THE G.C. WHICH HE COULD EASILY HAVE DONE.

I BELIEVE THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE VISIT, NAMELY TO CONVEY TO THE D.G. THE SERIOUSNESS OF OUR ATTITUDE, WAS ATTAINED. ALTHOUGH PROBABLY HE HAD NOT DOUBTS ABOUT IT, EVEN BEFORE I CALLED ON HIM.

THE CONVERSATION TOUCHED OTHER MATTERS. THE D.G. FOR INSTANCE, EXPLAINED TO ME AT GREAT LENGTH AND ALONG LINES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NOT DIFFERENT FROM THOSE INDICATED IN THE DOC. 100 EX/47, THE REASONS WHICH HAD LED HIM NOT TO CONVENE THE GROUP OF GVT. EXPERTS ON THE DRAFT DECLARATION ON RACE AND RACIAL PREJUDICES. THE PROCEDURAL FOLLOW-UP OF THIS ITEM, HE ADDED, COULD USEFULLY BE DEBATED BY THE G.T. 1.

WE TOUCHED ALSO ON THE PROBLEM OF THE REGIONAL GROUPS OUTLINING TOGETHER THE PROCEDURE WHICH IN PRINCIPLE COULD BE FOLLOWED AT THE G.C.:

A) - ENDORSEMENT BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE PERTINENT RESOLUTION OF THE 98TH SESSION OF THE E.D.;

B) - CONSULTATION OF REGIONAL GROUPS;

C) - ADOPTION OF THE RESOLUTIONS BY THE G.C.

ON POINT B), I INDICATED THAT THE CONSULTATIONS SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT ON AN INFORMAL BASIS AND THE THE CONVENING OF THE REGIONAL GROUP SHOULD BE AVOIDED.

THE D.G. AGREED ON THIS POINT, BUT DID NOT SEEM TO CONCUR IN THE IDEA I HAD PUT OUT, NAMELY THAT HE MIGHT BE ENTRUSTED WITH THESE CONSULTATIONS, AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE. HE THOUGHT THAT THE CHAIRMAN OF THE G.T. 1 MIGHT BE IN THE BEST POSITION TO ACCOMPLISH THIS TASK.

THE D.G. SAID ALSO, WITHOUT MY SUGGESTING IT, THAT THE FINAL RESOLUTION ON THIS ITEM SHOULD BE A "PACKAGE RESOLUTION" (UN PAQUET) WITHOUT SINGLING OUT ANY SPECIFIC STATE.

HE ADDED THAT THERE WERE ENOUGH APPLICANTS TO MAKE A MEANINGFUL AND UNCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION: SAN MARINO, GRANADA, ISRAEL, SOMALIA AND MAURITANIA, GUINEA BISSAU AND SURINAM. NEEDLESS TO SAY I AGREED.

WHILE I WAS LEAVING, THE D.G. SAID THAT HE COUNTED VERY MUCH ON THE CONTRIBUTION OF IDEAS, INITIATIVES AND GOOD WILL ON THE PART OF WEST EUROPEAN MEMBERS. HE SAID THAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PERHAPS WHAT HAPPENED AT THE 18TH CONFERENCE WAS PARTLY DUE TO A EUROPEAN "VACUUM" AT THE SESSION. AN OPINION ON WHICH HAVING NOT ATTENDED THE SESSION, I COULD NOT OFFER ANY PERSONAL COMMENT.

PARIS, 17 SEPTEMBER, 1976 END QUOTE OF TEXT
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